

Serial No.: 10/502,060
Atty. Docket No.: P69752US0

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

For the purposes of line numbers referred to herein, lines of text as well as blank lines between paragraphs are counted. Accordingly, beginning the numbering with the first line of the text after the title, the second paragraph on page 1, for example, is designated herein as beginning at line 8 of the text as originally filed, the last paragraph on page 2 begins at line 20 of the text as originally filed, and so on.

On page 1, please delete all of the text appearing before the title of the invention, as well as the horizontal lines appearing before and after the title.

On page 1, before line 1 of the text and after the title, please insert the following headings:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. FIELD OF THE INVENTION--.

On page 1, please delete the first six lines, constituting the first paragraph, in their entirety and insert the following new paragraph in place therefor:

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--The present invention relates to a tubular film die head for extruding single-layer or multi-layer film having a substantially annular die gap, fastening elements which fix at least two components with respect to one another which together border areas bearing plastic melt within the tubular film die head, and coolant-carrying elements.--

On page 1, line 7, please insert the following heading:

--2. DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--.

On page 1, please amend the last paragraph beginning on line 13, as follows:

--Among other things, for reasons of manufacturing technology (of the die head), at least one part of the distribution process of the plastic melt is, as a rule, ~~is done by plastic melt-carrying areas which are~~ done by plastic melt-carrying areas which are bounded by at least two components. The aforementioned publications show that the geometric structure of these areas can be realized in the most varied forms.--

On page 2, please amend the last paragraph beginning on line 20, as follows:

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--Thus, the publications U.S. Pat. No. 4,003,972, ~~US~~
~~{sic} 3 471 89~~ U.S. Pat. No. 3,471,899, and GB 1 253 454 shows
die heads in each of which a fastening element with a coolant
line is provided. The die head patented in DE 100 48 862 C2 is to
be considered as a further development of this type of die head
which comprises a fastening element in which two coolant lines
are integrated. Due to these two integrated coolant lines such a
fastening element assumes a significant volume.--

On page 2a, before line 1, please insert the following
heading:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

On page 2a, please amend the second paragraph beginning
on line 4, as follows:

--The objective is realized by ~~the characterizing~~
~~clause of Claim 1~~ a tubular film die head for extruding
single-layer or multi-layer film which has at least an annular
die gap, fastening means which fix at least two components with
respect to one another which together border areas bearing
plastic melt within the tubular film die head, where the
fastening means are structured coolant-carrying elements, and in

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which a plurality of fastening elements structured as coolant-carrying elements are provided. A part of the fastening elements contains coolant intake lines and another part contains coolant discharge lines.--

On page 3, please amend the second paragraph beginning on line 4, as follows:

--Teflon and, in given cases, ceramic materials, among others, come into consideration as insulating material. Since gases such as air, or even a vacuum, possess very good insulating properties, suitable cavities can also be provided. More particularly, in the areas of the holes in the die head, through which the fastening elements engage, cavities may be provided and/or the fastening elements and the inner walls of the holes can jointly form cavities in the die head.--

On page 4, before line 1, insert the following heading,
--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

On page 4, line 12, insert the following heading along with the new paragraph following thereafter:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

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Further scope of applicability of the present invention will become apparent from the detailed description given hereinafter. However, it should be understood that the detailed description and specific examples, while indicating preferred embodiments of the invention, are given by way of illustration only, since various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from this detailed description.--.

On page 4, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 19, as follows:

--The plastic melt arrives in the aforementioned gap 10 through the feed lines 13. Before the mouth into the gap 10, the feed lines are realized as helical grooves 14 in the bars 7 and 8 as well as the housing base plate 5. In this case the helical grooves 14 are each bounded above by the component 7, 8, 9 which is located above the component 5, 7, 8 in which the grooves are introduced. Due to the high pressure which prevails in the feed lines during operation, great lifting forces act on the bars 7 and 8 and the inner nozzle ring 9, said forces having to be absorbed by the fastening means 15a and b.--

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On page 5, please amend the last paragraph as follows:

--In the shown embodiment examples of the invention each fastening element 15 contains a line 24. However, it is just as well conceivable that fastening elements contain an exhaust line 24a and an intake line 24b. Other fastening elements can also get by without such lines 24. The holes, through which the fastening elements engage, may be encased, at least in part, with a thermally insulating material 25. The fastening elements may also consist, at least in part, of a thermally insulating material 25 and/or may contain cavities.--

On page 5, after the last line, please insert the following paragraph:

--The invention being thus described, it will be apparent that the same may be varied in many ways. Such variations are not to be regarded as a departure from the spirit and scope of the invention, and all such modifications as would be recognized by one skilled in the art are intended to be included within the scope of the following claims.--.

Delete page 6 in its entirety.